

# NATURAL FIBRES

**Natural fibres** - come from plants and animals

## COTTON

- Is made from the cotton plant.
- Is the least expensive of all natural fibres.
- Absorbs moisture.
- Is comfortable to wear.
- Is strong, durable, and accepts dyes easily.
- Is most suitable for:
  - children's clothing,
  - summer clothing, and
  - beginning sewing projects.

### Fibre Care:

- It can be pressed at higher temperatures.
- It dries quickly.
- It wrinkles easily.
- 100 % cotton shrinks.

## LINEN

### Fibre Characteristics:

- It is made of the flax plant.
- It has many of the same characteristics as cotton.
- It wrinkles VERY easily.
- It is stronger than cotton.
- It dyes easily.
- It is fairly expensive, and is often used in creating a blend.
- It is commonly used for spring/summer wear and fine suits.

### Fibre Care:

- Care varies from washable to dry cleanable only—it depends on the quality
- See the care label.
- Press at highest temperatures.

## **SILK**

### Fibre Characteristics:

- Silk comes from the silk worm.
- It is a luxury fabric.
- It has beautiful colors.
- It wrinkles easily.
- It is weakened by the sun.

### Fibre Care:

- Care varies from washable to dry cleanable only—depending upon the quality.
- See the care label.
- Do not iron using moisture—water spots never go away.

## **WOOL**

### Fibre Characteristics:

- Wool comes from animals i.e., sheep, rabbits, goats, etc.
- It is VERY warm, but shrinks and mats easily.
- It has natural fire-retardant characteristics.
- It eases and shapes well.
- It absorbs moisture.
- It keeps body heat in.
- It repels outside moisture.
- It doesn't show sewing errors.
- It is often used for coats, outer clothing, quality suits, etc.

### Fibre Care:

- Care varies from washable to dry cleanable only.
- See the care label.